

ESTIMATE—KANSAS TERRITORY.

LETTER

FROM THE

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

An estimate of appropriation for Kansas Territory.

JANUARY 15, 1855.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *January 12, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit an additional estimate of appropriation asked for the Territory of Kansas, together with copies of a letter from Governor Reeder and the Comptroller of the Treasury explanatory thereof.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,
JAMES GUTHRIE,
Secretary of the Treasury.

HON. LINN BOYD,
Speaker House of Representatives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Comptroller's Office, January 10, 1855.

SIR: Hon. A. H. Reeder, governor of the Territory of Kansas, addressed a letter to the Hon. John W. Whitfield, delegate in Congress from that Territory, dated the 24th ultimo, in which he called his attention to several subjects to be presented to Congress for its sustaining care by adequate appropriations. Mr. Whitfield having handed the letter to you as the medium of communicating estimates to Congress, in obedience to your instructions, I report on the following matters:

1st. A library for the Territory of Kansas.

Appropriations were made for libraries in other Territories as follows:

For Wisconsin, \$5,000, April 20, 1836; volume 5, page 16.

For Iowa, \$5,000, June 12, 1838; volume 5, page 241.

For Oregon, \$5,000, August 14, 1848; volume 9, page 330.

For Minnesota, \$5,000, March 3, 1849; volume 9, page 408.

For Utah, \$5,000, September 9, 1850; volume 9, page 457.

For New Mexico, \$5,000, September 30, 1850; volume 9, page 532.

For Washington, \$5,000, March 2, 1853; Pamphlet, page 179.

In the 33d section of the act of May 30, 1854, to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, it is stipulated that such sum as has been appropriated to other Territories for libraries shall be appropriated for a library for Kansas, to be expended under direction of the governor.—Pamphlet, page 289.

An appropriation of \$5,000 made for each Territory from 1836 to 1853, inclusive, has not been made for a library in Kansas or Nebraska.

An appropriation of \$500 was made by the act of August 4, 1854, for a library in each of the Territories of Minnesota, Oregon, Utah, New Mexico, Washington, Kansas, and Nebraska, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior.—Pamphlet Laws of 1853-'4, page 557.

2d. Appropriations for contingent expenses of the governors of Territories.

It is stipulated in the act of May 30, 1854, to organize the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, (Pamphlet Laws, page 288,) that "there shall be appropriated annually the usual sum, to be expended by the governor, to defray the contingent expenses of the Territory, including the salary of a clerk of the executive department," &c.

The sum appropriated for contingent expenses of governor in the Territory of Kansas for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, was \$1,500.—General appropriation act, August 4, 1854, page 557.

The organic acts of Oregon and Washington Territories stipulate that \$1,500 shall be appropriated for each annually to defray the contingent expenses of the executive offices.

The organic acts of Minnesota, New Mexico, and Utah, stipulated for an annual appropriation of \$1,000 for each executive office.

In the general appropriation act of August 4, 1854, for the contingent expenses of the governor in New Mexico for the year ending June 30, 1855, the sum of \$1,500, including the expense of a translator employed by the governor, was appropriated.

Before the organization of Oregon, the annual appropriations for the contingent expenses of each governor of a Territory was \$350.

Your estimates for the year ending June 30, 1856, include one for the contingent expenses of the governor of Kansas, amounting to \$1,000.

Governor Reeder wishes it increased \$500—to the same amount that Congress appropriated on the 4th of August, 1854, after the stipulation in the organic act of May 30, 1854, that "the usual allowance should be made to the governor of Kansas for contingent expenses that had been made in other Territories."

3d. Governor Reeder submits "an estimate of \$700, to be distributed by the governor of the Territory of Kansas, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, for the expenses of districting said Territory, and for ordering, holding, and returning the election therein for delegate to Congress." On this subject I addressed you on the 27th of December, and I refer you to that communication. My

opinion then was, and now is, that a special appropriation should be made by Congress to defray that expense.

4th. Public buildings.

The 33d section of the said organic act, among other things, provides: "That there shall hereafter be appropriated, as has been customary for the Territorial governments, a sufficient amount, to be expended under the direction of the said governor of the Territory of Kansas, not exceeding the sums heretofore appropriated for similar objects, for the erection of suitable public buildings at the seat of government." Pamphlet Laws 289, of the session of 1853-1854.

The appropriations for the other Territories have been generally designated "for public buildings," which included the houses for the legislative assemblies and their offices and out-buildings, and for penitentiaries, which designation needs no explanation.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR OREGON.

For public buildings.....	\$25,000	
For penitentiary.....	20,000	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$45,000

FOR MINNESOTA.

For public buildings.....	\$37,500	
For penitentiary.....	37,500	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$75,000

FOR NEW MEXICO.

For public buildings.....	\$70,000	
For penitentiary.....	20,000	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$90,000

FOR UTAH.

For public buildings.....	\$20,000	
For penitentiary.....	20,000	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$40,000

FOR WASHINGTON.

For public buildings.....	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$5,000

FOR KANSAS.

For public buildings, on a contingency to be decided by the Secretary of War—army act of August 5, 1854, section 6, page 582.....	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$25,000

FOR NEBRASKA.

No appropriation has been made.

As the dates of the several acts may be of convenience to you and others, whose attention may be drawn to this subject, I shall accompany this by suitable references.

These estimates should designate how much is wanted for public buildings, and how much for penitentiary, so that the entries may be separately and distinctly carried upon the appropriation books in the Treasury Department, and the disbursements made and the accounts kept accordingly.

The letter of Governor Reeder to Mr. Whitfield is herewith returned.

Most sincerely and respectfully yours,

ELISHA WHITTLESEY.

Hon. JAMES GUTHRIE,

Secretary of the Treasury.

Statement of the appropriations for the public buildings and penitentiaries of the Territories; to accompany the letter of the Comptroller to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury of the 10th January, 1855, on the subject.

TERRITORY OF OREGON.

Public buildings, act of 14th August, 1848.....	\$5,000
Public buildings, act of 11th June, 1850	20,000
Penitentiary, act of 11th June, 1850	20,000
Total for public buildings and penitentiary.....	<u>45,000</u>

TERRITORY OF MINNESOTA.

Public buildings, act of 11th June, 1850.....	\$20,000
Public buildings, act of 3d March, 1853, viz: for public buildings and penitentiary, one-half to each, total	\$25,000
Deduct amount applied for penitentiary.....	12,500
	<u>12,500</u>
Public buildings, act of 31st May, 1854, for the completion of the public buildings and peniten- tiary	10,000
This sum has been partly advanced to the agent as appropriated; but, as it is supposed only one- half will be eventually applied to each, the de- duction of \$5,000, in this statement, is made and carried to the appropriation for the penitentiary, as will be seen below	5,000
	<u>5,000</u>
Penitentiary of Minnesota, act of 11th June, 1850.....	20,000
Penitentiary of Minnesota, act of 3d March, 1853.....	12,500
Penitentiary of Minnesota, act of 31st May, 1854.....	5,000
Total for public buildings and penitentiary.....	<u>75,000</u>

TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO.

Public buildings, act of 30th September, 1850.....	\$20,000
Public buildings, act of 31st May, 1854.....	50,000
Penitentiary, act of 3d March, 1853.....	20,000
Total for public buildings and penitentiary.....	<u>90,000</u>

TERRITORY OF UTAH.

Public buildings, act of 9th September, 1850	\$20,000
Penitentiary, act of 3d March, 1853.....	20,000
Total for public buildings and penitentiary.....	<u>40,000</u>

TERRITORY OF WASHINGTON.

Public buildings, act of 3d March, 1853	\$5,000
(There has been no appropriation for the penitentiary.)	
Total for public buildings.....	<u>5,000</u>

TERRITORY OF KANSAS.

Public buildings, (see act of 5th August, 1854, the 6th section, page 582, pamphlet edition of Laws, 1st session 33d Congress).....	\$25,000
(There has been no separate appropriation for a penitentiary.)	
Total for public buildings.....	<u>25,000</u>

Estimates for the Territory of Kansas for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1856.

1. Salary of governor.....	\$2,500
2. Contingent expenses of Territory.....	1,500
3. Salary of secretary.....	2,000
4. Salaries of three judges.....	6,000
5. Salary of district attorney.....	250
6. Extra compensation of marshal.....	200

The above are the salaries of the current year, and I would suggest that those of the district attorney and marshal be increased for one year, at least to \$1,500 each, for the reason that the state of the Ter-

ritory is such that their fees will be very trifling, indeed almost nothing, and, with the present salary, entirely inadequate to meet their expenses, which in this country, at this time, are very great.

7. Appropriation for the erection of public buildings..... \$25,000

This is in addition to the appropriation of a like amount for the current year, which is yet unexpended. The buildings, however, should be, and can be, entirely completed before the close of the next fiscal year; and whatever sum is necessary to complete them should be appropriated immediately, so that it may be relied on in the commencement, and may be drawn from the treasury during the next summer and fall. The late appropriation of \$25,000 will not, in my opinion, be sufficient to erect suitable buildings. Good pine lumber of the quality fit for flooring, siding, and inside work, is worth, on the territory near the Missouri river, \$60 per thousand; and in the interior, still more clear stuff, without knots, is still higher. The wages of building mechanics last season was \$2 25 and \$2 50, and laborers \$1 25, and will probably be higher still the coming summer. Ordinary bricks \$12 to \$14 per thousand. Teaming in proportion to these prices. The crop of corn is very short, (and it is worth even now 85 cents to \$1,) which will make hauling and teaming very expensive. In view of these facts, I can safely estimate that the cost of building will be *at least* 50 per cent. greater than in the States, and that \$50,000 will not go as far with us as \$25,000 has with several of the Territories heretofore erected.

8. Appropriation for expenses of election of delegate to House of Representatives of the United States, on the 29th of November \$700

It was impossible to have the election for Congressional delegate and legislature at the same time, or this expense would have been paid from the legislative fund. It was improper to postpone the former for the sake of the latter, or we should have been unrepresented nearly the whole winter.

9. Appropriation for purchase of a Territorial library..... \$5,000

This is the usual amount, and was only omitted last session because it was considered premature.

10. Appropriation for legislative expenses..... \$20,000

This is the same amount as has been appropriated for the current year.

11. Annual appropriation for library..... \$500

Same as annually appropriated to all the Territories.

Mode of disbursements.

The seventh item should be expended under the direction of the governor, because that is the provision made by law for the previous appropriation to same object.

The eighth item the same, because the governor has already incurred the expenses.

The ninth the same, because that is the provision in all the Territorial bills and appropriations to this object.

The tenth by the Secretary of the Treasury, because such is the provision for the current year, and is usual.

The eleventh by the Secretary of the Treasury, because such is the usual and customary provision.

A. H. REEDER,

Governor of the Territory of Kansas.

SHAWNEE MISSION, KANSAS TERRITORY, Dec. 29, 1854.

Estimates of additional appropriations required for the Territory of Kansas.

For public buildings.....	\$25,000
For the purchase of a Territorial library.....	5,000
For the expenses of the election of a delegate to the House of Representatives of the United States, November 29, 1854	700
For contingent expenses of the Territory, in addition to the sum of \$1,000 asked for in the general estimates.....	500
	<hr/>
	31,200
	<hr/>

F. BIGGER, *Register.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

Register's Office, January 12, 1855.

